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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

S.I., Special Branch
REPORT

Date May 25 1937

Subject (in full) Police objection to two plays submitted by the "Model Children's Dramatic Society" for censorship.

Made by _____ and _____ Forwarded by D.S.I. Laurier

In compliance with the instructions of the D.C. (Special Branch), Mr. S. T. Chow (周守之), Chairman of the "Model Children's Dramatic Society," 27 Yui Ching Fong, North Szechuen Road, O.O.L., was informed at Police Headquarters at 4 p.m. May 24 that the two plays entitled "A Sketch of Chapai" (周北小景) and "A Thief" (小偷) had been censored and found unsuitable for public exhibition and that they were under no circumstances to be staged in the Settlement.

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D.C. (D.W.)



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D. C. (Special Branch)



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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

S.1, Special Branch ~~XXXXX~~
REPORT

Date May 22, 1937 ⁷⁸²⁹

Subject (in full) Letter addressed by the Model Children's Dramatic Society
to the Municipal Police requesting censorship of two plays,
Made by D.S.I. Kao Yen-ken Forwarded by W. L. L. L. L.

With reference to the attached letter dated April 26, 1937, addressed by the Model Children's Dramatic Society", 27 Yui Ching Fong, North Szechuen Road, O.O.L., to the Municipal Police, requesting censorship of two plays, entitled "A Sketch of Chapei" (河北小景) and "A Thief" (小偷), I have to report that the scripts have been perused and summarized translations of both plays are forwarded herewith as Appendices "A" and "B" respectively. Both plays are of a patriotic nature, not being entirely free from anti-Japanese sentiment.

Kao Yen-ken
D. S. I.

D. C. (Special Branch).

Suggest that applicant be informed
that both plays are unsuitable for
exhibition in the Settlement.

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S.1.

Yes. Quite suitable.

inform applicant.

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24 MAY 1937

W. L. L. L. L.
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(SPECIAL BRANCH)

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Appendix "A"

A Sketch of Chapei

Time : March 15, 1937.

Places : A family on Paoshan Road.

The play depicts a family consisting of a mother, two sons and a daughter, the father having been away from home for a long time.

One day, when the daughter returns, she reports that a man, poorly dressed, is standing outside the house. Later the man comes in: it is the father of the family.

The elder son, however, does not recognize him as the father, but calls him a Chinese traitor.

The elder son : "In that year of the "January 28" Incident, he (the father) was a well known Chinese traitor in Chapei. On behalf of the x x, he bought over a number of "slaves without a nation" to create disturbances at the rear.

"You said that we are bound to support him (the father). I, however, do not think so. In order to earn money, he did sell his personality and country and become the running dog of the devils. For our part, we should say that we have no father.

"During the "January 28" Incident, he was more or less the native king extorting money and committing robbery, arson and murder. When the Incident was over, he realized that he could not stay in Shanghai and left for the North East with his Japanese sweetheart. In the North East, he to be a dog. He did not care for welfare of the race, but only for his passion."

Disappointed, the father leaves and the play thus concluded.

Appendix "B"

A Thief

Time - A winter

Place- a place near the factory zone.

The play begins with a family consisting of a father and a daughter.

The father
while reading
an evening
paper :

"The devils again utilize the bandit armies
to invade Suiyuan.

"The devils are afraid of the unification of
China.

The daughter :

"Is it that this time we again refrain
from resisting?

The father :

"No, this time we resist; General Fu Tso-nyi
has already determined to resist the
enemy.

After selling a quantity of clothing to a second
hand goods dealer, the father leaves the house. Later a
thief appears and plays his part. He is soon caught by
the daughter who advises him to go away at once.

The thief :

"If I leave, will you call the police?

The daughter :

"No, I'll not. I can swear I'll not,
because I am in sympathy with those poor
people who have no food.

At that moment, the father returns and intends to send the
thief to the police.

The daughter :

"Dada, please release him. It is not
his fault, but the fault of the society.

The play is concluded with the thief being
taken by the father to the Police.

27 Yue -Ching Fong,
North Szechuen Road,
Shanghai,
April 26, 1937.

The Theatrical Censorship Committee,
Shanghai Municipal Council,
Shanghai.

Sir,

Herewith forwarded two manuscripts
namely (1) A Sketch of Chapel, (2) A Thief,
both are written by Mr. Loo S (S. L.) for
censorship, before permission of performance
among the primary schools in the International
Settlement.

Hoping that you will render us necessary
assistance in education.

Yours sincerely,

S. T. Chow

Chairman,
Model Child Dramatic
Association of China.

S. L.
DBR.
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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

S.I., Special Branch

REPORT

Date March 19, 1937.

Subject "Model Children's Dramatic Society" (模範兒童劇社)

- Promoter warned.

Made by and Forwarded by D.S.I. Coyne

In accordance with the instructions of the D.C. (Special Branch) on the attached report regarding the "Model Children's Dramatic Society," Chew Shou-ts (周守之), one of the principal promoters of the society, was interviewed at Police Headquarters on March 18 and warned that (a) plays for Settlement production must first be approved by the municipal Police and (b) no political aspect or innuendo would be permitted. He promised that the Police instructions would be observed.

J. Coyne
D. S. I.

D. C. (Special Branch)



SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. 3-REGISTRY
No. S. D. D. 2829
Branch/37
Date March 13, 1937.

S.1, Special

REPORT

Subject "Model Children's Dramatic Society" (模範兒童劇社)

- in the course of formation.

Made by U.S.I. Kao Yen-ken Forwarded by J. Byrne D.S.I.

A new organization to be known as the "Model Children's Dramatic Society" is in the course of formation with a communication address at the Yeu Tuh (友德) Primary School, 27 Yui Ching Fong (餘慶坊), North Szechuen Road, U.O.L. The following are the principal promoters :-

Chow Shou-ts (周守之),
a teacher of the Yeu Tuh Primary School.

Koh Ye-ping (何似萍),
an editor of the Tung Nan Evening News,
53/5 Avenue Edward VII (French Concession) and
the "Model Children Monthly", 27 Yui Ching
Fong, North Szechuen Road, U.O.L.

Chi Siao-noong (計笑農),
an editor of the "Model Children Monthly".

It is now engaged in canvassing members. Up to the present, five children have enrolled with the society as members.

When properly organized, the society plans to stage plays in primary schools in Shanghai on Saturday afternoons for educational purposes.

According to the promoters, the first two plays to be rehearsed will be entitled "The Thief" (小偷) and "A Sketch of Chapei" (阿北小景). Passages in the script of the play "The Thief" are of an anti-Japanese nature. The script of the play "A Sketch of Chapei" is not available. The promoters claim that these plays will be sent to the Bureau of Social Affairs for censorship prior to their publication.

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S.1.
J. Byrne
D.S.I.

Kao Yen-ken
U. S. I.

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D. C. (Special Branch).

March 4, 1937.

Afternoon Translation.

Iron News (鐵報) published the following article on Mar. 3:

THE MODEL CHILDREN'S DRAMATIC SOCIETY

An organization known as the "Model Children's Dramatic Society" (模範兒童劇社) will soon be formally inaugurated by members of the "Model Children's Monthly Publishing Agency" (模範兒童月刊社). Most of the members are students or teachers of primary schools in Shanghai.

This dramatic society will stage plays in primary schools on Saturday afternoons in order to arouse the interest of teachers and students to dramatic plays.

"A Sketch of Chapei" to be Staged

The new society is canvassing members and will be formally inaugurated at a meeting to be held in the near future.

According to Mr. Chow Shou Ts (周守之), a responsible official of the society, the first performance to be given will include two one-act plays entitled "The Thief" (小偷) and "A Sketch of Chapei" (南北小景), both of which were written by Mr. Lu Sz (魯迅).

The temporary communication address of the dramatic society will be c/o the Yau Tuh Primary School (育德小學), No. 27 Yui Ching Fong (育慶坊), North Szechuen Road.

5 MAR 1937

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